

The Senate has, through leadership of the majority leader and colleagues on both sides of the aisle, come to terms with this. We passed the continuing resolution. That issue is over and done with.

What remains is for the House to act responsibly to do what they should have done weeks ago—to pass a continuing resolution, put people back to work, and make absolutely certain that this horrendous situation we face today is solved once and for all.

If we do not, there will continue to be dire consequences. Everyone should know that Meals on Wheels runs out of money this week. Senior citizens who may only receive one meal a day will cease receiving those meals as a result of the inaction in the House. Senior citizens will go hungry. No one ought to be confused about it. Everyone ought to understand the implications of what we are doing here. Seniors who may not get any other nutritional opportunities for the entire day will be denied this one meal as a result of House Republican intransigence.

Medicare contractors are no longer being paid. Medicare contractors are now being asked to go out and provide medical services without any compensation at all.

So are we affecting the lives and health of millions of Americans beyond Federal workers? Absolutely. We are doing it today.

I already mentioned veterans not receiving their disability benefits. They are not receiving educational benefits either.

Unemployment offices—we have people out of work, walking in for unemployment compensation, not knowing how they are going to pay their bills. Their situation is totally unrelated to any budget negotiations. They are walking into unemployment offices and finding that no one can provide them with service because 10 States have already been forced to shut down their unemployment offices. Ten States have shut down every single unemployment office.

So people seeking help—not Federal employees, not people who may be part of the Federal Government but people who are out of work—are now being told there is nothing that we can do for them either.

Superfund has been halted now for cleanups in 32 toxic wastesites. There are 32 sites around the country completely shut down as a result of what has happened here in the Congress, and what is happening—or not happening—on the House side.

There are 20,000 student loans per day that are not being processed.

I had a call a couple of days ago from a friend in South Dakota whose daughter is depressed and in tears wondering just what is going to happen because she was told she cannot even go back to college because her student loan did not come through for the second semester. What happens to the next 6 months of her life?

Mr. President, there has been a lot of talk about furloughing Federal workers without pay. But it appears that the House may furlough themselves with pay. How outrageous can that be? What a contrast. What an incredible juxtaposition of fairness. The House is going out on a 2-week vacation with pay.

Every Federal worker is left at home without pay and the Federal taxpayer is left holding the bag each and every day for services not rendered.

This country has been in very difficult positions in the past. But I dare say, Mr. President, that this is the most inexplicable, outrageous situation that I have seen since coming to the Senate. It has to end. The House has to come to grips with taking the responsibility and doing the right thing. It has to happen, and it better happen today.

I yield the floor.

MAKING FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

The PRESIDING OFFICER (Mr. STEVENS). For the information of the Senate, under the previous order, House Joint Resolution 153, which was just received from the House, has been deemed read a third time and passed, and the motion to reconsider has been laid upon the table.

So the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 153) was deemed read a third time and passed.

MORNING BUSINESS

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, there will now be a period for the transaction of morning business for not to extend beyond the hour of 12 noon with Senators permitted to speak therein for not to exceed 10 minutes.

COMMEMORATION OF UTAH'S CENTENNIAL

Mr. DOLE. Mr. President, 100 years ago today, Utah became the 45th State of the Union. I wish to join with Utahns everywhere and celebrate this momentous day, as I am sure my colleagues would as well, and I extend my best wishes for the next century.

Mr. HATCH. Mr. President, 100 years ago today, January 4, 1896, President Grover Cleveland signed a proclamation admitting Utah as the 45th State of the Union. I rise in recognition of this event and to join with Utahns everywhere to celebrate the centennial of the State of Utah.

Prior to President Cleveland's action, Utahns had diligently battled for more than half a century to attain this goal. The telegram announcing Utah's statehood arrived at 9:13 a.m. on that winter morning in January at the Western Union office located on Main Street in Salt Lake City. As gunshots rang out

the news, hundreds of people began shouting with joy, "Statehood has been proclaimed." Bells and whistles reverberated throughout the valley, and one-by-one, 100 American flags were hoisted.

President Cleveland actually signed the proclamation at 10:03 a.m. in Washington, DC. His private secretary, Mr. Thurber, was quoted in the Salt Lake Tribune as saying,

The President looked upon the signing of the proclamation as purely as Executive act, and one not, therefore, to be witnessed by the public any more than the affixing of his signature to other routine business which came before him.

Let me emphatically state 100 years later than President Cleveland's act was not just routine business—this was the birth of a truly remarkable State.

Utah is great because its people make it so. Utahns, regardless of religious affiliation, hold solid values in common that I believe are essential to the quality of life anywhere. These include a strong work ethic, honesty, charity, compassion, thrift, perseverance, and respect for the family. There is a positive can do attitude in our State that is irresistible and refreshing.

As our State motto indicates, Utah is industrious. As we excel in the arts and humanities, we also excel in the sciences and in commerce. This success has brought us an enviable level of prosperity compared to other States, and sets the stage for a stable future for our children.

Utah's natural beauty is unsurpassed. The State of Utah has as a lasting and historical landmark, the Great Salt Lake; the greatest snow on Earth; and everything to offer in pure natural beauty. We are surrounded by the majesty of our mountains and forests; the breathtaking beauty of our red rock canyons; and the wide, open, limitless expanse of our farmlands and deserts.

People have come to Utah from every part of the world with one basic motivation—the belief that this is the place where they would find the opportunity to pursue their hopes and dreams. Utah's history is filled with tales of people who have displayed remarkable determination and the will to forge ahead regardless of the odds. Our history and our people have literally made a desert blossom. Utah leaves an indelible impression upon its citizens, its visitors, and its leaders. The Utah values and the people who believe in them are the reasons Utah is a wonderful place to live, work, and most importantly raise our families.

Mr. President, most of my colleagues have had the opportunity to visit Utah and experience the spirit that makes our State what it is today. As many have told me, they can fully understand why I am so proud to represent Utah in this body. I choose to bring this highly important date to the attention of the Senate in the hope that my colleagues will join with me in congratulating all Utahns for a job well done.